

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A three-dimensional cell culture method ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of:

(a) flat-culturing cells on a permeable sheet; and

(b) constructing a three-dimensional tissue with ~~[[a]]~~ the permeable sheet by stacking cells flat-cultured on the permeable sheet on other flat-cultured cells.

2. (Original) The three-dimensional cell culture method of claim 1 wherein the cultured cells are originated from any one of a solid organ, an epithelial tissue, or a muscular tissue.

3. (Original) The three-dimensional cell culture method of claim 2 wherein the cultured cells are originated from a liver.

4. (Original) The three-dimensional cell culture method of claim 3 wherein the cultured cells comprise primarily small hepatocytes.

5. (Previously Presented) The three-dimensional cell culture method of claim 3 wherein a bile canaliculus is formed in the three-dimensional tissue.

Claims 6-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) An artificial organ constructed from ~~[[the]]~~ a three-dimensional tissue, ~~of claim 6~~ wherein

the three-dimensional tissue comprises a permeable sheet, constructed by stacking a cellular sheet with the permeable sheet on other flat-cultured cells, and

the cellular sheet is cells flat-cultured on the permeable sheet.

12. (Currently Amended) A cell culture method ~~of flat-culturing cells on a permeable sheet~~ comprising flat-culturing cells on a permeable sheet and defining a colony form of the cultured cells by controlling a position of a pore in said permeable sheet.

13. (Original) A three-dimensional cell culture method comprising constructing a three-dimensional tissue by stacking cultured cells cultured by the cell culture method of claim 12 on other flat-cultured cells together with the permeable sheet.

14. (Currently Amended) A tissue transplantation method comprising transplanting ~~[[the]] a~~ three-dimensional tissue ~~of claim 6~~ into a living body of a vertebrate, wherein

the three-dimensional tissue comprises a permeable sheet, constructed by stacking a cellular sheet with the permeable sheet on other flat-cultured cells, and the cellular sheet is cells flat-cultured on the permeable sheet.